

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 053482  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:DJDONCHI:CW  
APPROVED BY EUR/NE:RLFUNSETH  
EUR:RDVINE  
S/S-O:LRFLEISCHER

-----089279 021536Z /53

P 021518Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053482

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, PBOR, UR, SV, NO

SUBJECT: EVENSEN VISIT

REFS: (A) STATE 44472; (B) STATE 48988

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. DIRECTOR NORTHERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS  
FUNSETH BRIEFED REPRESENTATIVES FROM FRENCH, GERMAN AND  
BRITISH EMBASSIES MARCH 1 ON MINISTER EVENSEN'S CONVERSA-  
TIONS IN WASHINGTON, DRAWING HEAVILY ON REPORTING MESSAGE  
(REF A). END SUMMARY.

2. FUNSETH REVIEWED EVENSEN'S PRESENTATION ON FUTURE  
NORWEGIAN PLANS FOR FISHERY PROTECTION ZONE AROUND  
SVALBARD AND OBSERVED THAT EVENSEN HAD ALREADY VISITED  
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PAGE 02 STATE 053482

EUROPEAN CAPITALS TO EXPLAIN NORWEGIAN VIEWS. NORWAY  
IS PROPOSING TRAWLER-FREE ZONES ALONG WEST COAST OF  
SVALBARD AND AROUND BEAR ISLAND. EVENSEN BELIEVES  
THAT UPCOMING TALKS IN MOSCOW WOULD ONLY BE PRELIMINARY  
ROUND AND NOT RESULT IN SOVIET AGREEMENT. US HAS NO  
PROBLEM WITH NORWEGIAN PLANS SO LONG AS THEY REMAINED  
NON-DISCRIMINATORY AND DID NOT IMPINGE UPON OUR RIGHTS

AS A SPITZBERGEN TREATY SIGNATORY.

3. SECOND PHASE OF FUNSETH'S BRIEFING DEALT WITH US VIEWS CONVEYED BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE TO EVENSEN ON THE RANGE OF NORTHERN ISSUES (SEE PARA 14 REF A) INCLUDING OUR ASSESSMENT OF SOVIET POLICY OBJECTIVES. US SVALBARD POLICY HAD NOT CHANGED SINCE WE BRIEFED ALLIES FOLLOWING OUR OCTOBER BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN OSLO. WE SEE LITTLE CHANCE OF ALLIED AGREEMENT IF EACH NATION ASSERTED LEGAL CLAIMS. RATHER, WE ADVOCATE PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO RESOURCE QUESTIONS BACKED UP BY MAXIMUM SUPPORT OF NORWAY. OUR ASSESSMENT IS THAT SOVIET UNION HAS BEEN EXHIBITING SYSTEMATIC HARD-LINE POLICIES IN THE NORTH MOTIVATED BY THEIR PARAMOUNT STRATEGIC, POLITICAL AND MILITARY CONSIDERATIONS. WE ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED AT SOVIET EFFORTS TO PUSH THEIR CONDOMINIUM OR PACKAGE DEAL APPROACH WITH THE NORWEGIANS. WE ALSO NOTED THAT THE GRAY ZONE AGREEMENT EXTENDED SOVIET JURISDICTION AND THE DISPUTED ZONE WESTWARD OF THE SECTOR LINE AND THAT WE COUNSELED NORWAY TO BE PATIENT, CAUTIOUS AND TO ADOPT FIRM ENFORCEMENT POLICIES IN THE NORTH. US WOULD REFRAIN FROM MAKING ANY PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON THESE MATTERS.

4. EVENSEN SAID GON BELIEVED ITS BEST POLICY WAS TO KEEP TALKING WITH THE RUSSIANS IN HOPE OF GAINING CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 053482

CONCESSIONS AND REDUCING THE RISK OF ANY ARMED INCIDENTS.

5. BRITISH PARTICIPANT (SOUTAR) STATED THAT BRITISH AMBASSADOR IN OSLO HAD REQUESTED INSTRUCTIONS TO CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER FOR PURPOSE OF STIFFENING NORWEGIAN RESOLVE ON EVE OF MOSCOW TALKS. FCO POINTED OUT THAT BRITISH VIEWS WERE COMMUNICATED DURING EVENSEN VISIT TO LONDON AND DID NOT AUTHORIZE THEIR AMBASSADOR TO SEEK INTERVIEW SOLELY FOR THIS PURPOSE. SOUTAR VOLUNTEERED BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS NO PROBLEM WITH NORWEGIAN PLANS FOR FISHERY PROTECTION ZONE AROUND SVALBARD PROVIDED THAT ARRANGEMENTS WERE NON-DISCRIMINATORY AND THAT NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO ADHERE TO NON-DISCRIMINATORY APPROACH.

6. PARTICIPANTS: BRITISH EMBASSY - FIRST SECRETARY IAN SOUTAR; GERMAN EMBASSY - FIRST SECRETARY PETER VON JAGOW; FRENCH EMBASSY - COUNSELOR YANNICK GERARD. US SIDE: NORTHERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR FUNSETH AND NORWEGIAN/ICELANDIC DESK OFFICER DON DONCHI. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISHERIES, BRIEFING MATERIALS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 44472, 78 STATE 48988  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3139267  
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**Subject:** EVENSEN VISIT  
**TAGS:** EFIS, PBOR, UR, SV, NO  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014